

**§ 578.69**

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U.S. Army infantry or Special Forces unit of brigade, regimental, or smaller size may be considered for award of the CIB. The specific eligibility requirements listed in § 578.69(a) must be met. Retroactive awards under these criteria are not authorized for service prior to September 18, 2001.

(c) The CIB is authorized for award for the following qualifying periods:

(1) World War II (December 7, 1941 to September 3, 1945).

(2) The Korean War (June 27, 1950 to July 27, 1953).

(3) Republic of Vietnam Conflict (March 2, 1961 to March 28, 1973), combined with qualifying service in Laos (April 19, 1961 to October 6, 1962).

(4) Dominican Republic (April 28, 1965 to September 1, 1966).

(5) Korea on the DMZ (January 4, 1969 to March 31, 1994).

(6) El Salvador (January 1, 1981 to February 1, 1992).

(7) Grenada (October 23 to November 21, 1983).

(8) Joint Security Area, Panmunjom, Korea (November 23, 1984).

(9) Panama (December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990).

(10) Southwest Asia Conflict (January 17 to April 11, 1991).

(11) Somalia (June 5, 1992 to March 31, 1994).

(12) Afghanistan (Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, December 5, 2001 to a date to be determined).

(13) Iraq (Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, March 19, 2003 to a date to be determined).

(d) The special provisions authorized for the Vietnam Conflict, Laos, and Korea on the DMZ are outlined in paragraphs (d)(1) through (5) of this section.

(1) During the Vietnam Conflict, any officer whose branch is other than infantry who, under appropriate orders, has commanded a line infantry (other than a headquarters unit) unit of brigade, regimental, or smaller size for at least 30 consecutive days is deemed to have been detailed in infantry and is eligible for award of the CIB notwithstanding absence of a written directive detailing that Soldier in the infantry, provided all other requirements for the award have been met. Orders directing the officer to assume command will be

confirmed in writing at the earliest practicable date.

(i) In addition, any officer, warrant officer, or enlisted Soldier whose branch is other than infantry, who under appropriate orders was assigned to advise a unit listed in paragraphs (d)(2) and (3) of this section or was assigned as a member of a White Star Mobile Training Team or a member of MAAG-Laos as indicated in paragraphs (d)(4)(i) and (ii) of this section will be eligible for award of the CIB provided all other requirements have been met.

(ii) After December 1, 1967 for service in the Republic of Vietnam, non-commissioned officers serving as Command Sergeants Major of infantry battalions and brigades for periods of at least 30 consecutive days in a combat zone are eligible for award of the CIB provided all other requirements have been met.

(2) Subsequent to March 1, 1961, a Soldier must have been—

(i) Assigned as advisor to an infantry unit, ranger unit, infantry-type unit of the civil guard of regimental or smaller size, and/or infantry-type unit of the self-defense corps unit of regimental or smaller size of the Vietnamese government during any period such unit was engaged in actual ground combat.

(ii) Assigned as advisor of an irregular force comparable to the above infantry units under similar conditions.

(iii) Personally present and under fire while serving in an assigned primary duty as a member of a tactical advisory team while the unit participated in ground combat.

(3) Subsequent to May 24, 1965, to qualify for the CIB, personnel serving in U.S. units must meet the requirements of paragraph (b)(1) of this section. Individuals who performed liaison duties with the Royal Thai Army of the Army of the Republic of Korea combat units in Vietnam are eligible for award of the badge provided they meet all other requirements.

(4) In Laos from April 19, 1961 to October 6, 1962, a Soldier must have been—

(i) Assigned as member of a White Star Mobile Training Team while the team was attached to or working with a unit of regimental (groupment mobile) or smaller size of Forces Armee

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du Royaume (FAR), or with irregular type forces of regimental or smaller size.

(ii) A member of MAAG-Laos assigned as an advisor to a region or zone of FAR, or while serving with irregular type forces of regimental or smaller size.

(iii) Personally under hostile fire while assigned as specified in paragraphs (d)(4)(i) and (ii) of this section.

(5) In Korea on the DMZ. The special requirements for award of the CIB for service in the Republic of Korea are rescinded. Army veterans and service members who served in Korea on or after July 28, 1953 and meet the criteria for award of the CIB outlined in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, may submit an application (to include supporting documentation) for award of the CIB to the Commander, USA HRC, (see § 578.3(c) for address). Retroactive awards under these criteria are not authorized for service prior to July 29, 1953.

(e) *Subsequent awards.* To date, a separate award of the CIB has been authorized for qualified soldiers in any of the following four qualifying periods:

(1) World War II (December 7, 1941 to September 3, 1945).

(2) The Korean Conflict (June 27, 1950 to July 27, 1953).

(3) *The Vietnam Conflict.* Service in the Republic of Vietnam conflict (after March 1, 1961) combined with qualifying service in Laos (April 19, 1961 to October 6, 1962); the Dominican Republic (April 28, 1965 to September 1, 1966); Korea on the DMZ (after January 4, 1969); El Salvador (January 1, 1981 to February 1, 1992); Grenada (October 23 to November 21, 1983); Joint Security Area, Panmunjom, Korea (November 23, 1984); Panama (December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990); Southwest Asia (January 17 to April 11, 1991); and Somalia (June 5, 1992 to March 31, 1994) is recognized by one award only regardless of whether a soldier has served one or multiple tours in any or all of these areas.

(4) *Global War on Terrorism.* Operation ENDURING FREEDOM (November 20, 2001 to date to be determined) and Operation IRAQI FREEDOM (March 19, 2003 to a date to be determined).

(f) If a Soldier has been awarded the CIB in one of the qualifying periods outlined in paragraph (c) of this section, that Soldier is not eligible to earn the CMB in the same period.

(g) *Who may award—*(1) *Current awards.* Current awards of the CIB may be awarded by the Commanding General, USA HRC and any commander delegated authority by the Secretary of the Army during wartime.

(2) *Retroactive awards.* Retroactive awards of the Combat Infantryman Badge and the Combat Medical Badge may be awarded by the Commanding General, USA HRC to active duty Soldiers and Reserve Component Soldiers. Applications for retroactive award of the CIB and CMB will be forwarded through command channels to the Commander, USA HRC, (see § 578.3(c) for address). Retirees and veterans should address their application to the NPRC, (see § 578.16(a)(3) for address). Retroactive award of the CIB and CMB are authorized for time periods specified above to fully qualified individuals. Such awards will not be made except where evidence of injustice is presented.

(h) *Description.* A silver and enamel badge 1 inch in height and 3 inches in width, consisting of an infantry musket on a light blue bar with a silver border, on and over an elliptical oak wreath. Stars are added at the top of the wreath to indicate subsequent awards; one star for the second award, two stars for the third award and three stars for the fourth award.

### § 578.70 Combat Medical Badge.

(a) *Eligibility requirements.* (1) The Combat Medical Badge (CMB) may be awarded to members of the Army Medical Department (colonels and below), the Naval Medical Department (captains and below), the Air Force Medical Service (colonels and below), assigned or attached by appropriate orders to an infantry unit of brigade, regimental, or smaller size, or to a medical unit of company or smaller size, organic to an infantry unit of brigade or smaller size, during any period the infantry unit is engaged in actual ground combat on or after December 6, 1941. Battle participation credit alone is not sufficient;

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the infantry unit must have been in contact with the enemy.

(2) Award of the CMB will not be made to general or flag officers.

(b) The following individuals are also eligible for the CMB:

(1) Effective December 19, 1989, Special Forces personnel possessing military occupational specialty 18D (Special Operations Medical Sergeant) who satisfactorily performed medical duties while assigned or attached to a Special Forces unit during any period the unit is engaged in actual ground combat, provided they are personally present and under fire. Retroactive awards under these criteria are not authorized prior to December 19, 1989.

(2) Effective January 16, 1991, Medical personnel outlined in paragraph (a) of this section, assigned or attached to armor and ground cavalry units of brigade or smaller size, who satisfactorily perform medical duties while the unit is engaged in actual ground combat, provided they are personally present and under fire. Retroactive awards under these criteria are not authorized prior to January 16, 1991.

(3) Effective September 11, 2001, Medical personnel outlined in paragraphs (a) (1) and (b)(2) of this section, assigned or attached to or under operational control of any ground Combat Arms units (not to include members assigned or attached to Aviation units) of brigade or smaller size, who satisfactorily perform medical duties while the unit is engaged in actual ground combat, provided they are personally present and under fire. Retroactive awards under these criteria are not authorized prior to September 11, 2001.

(4) Effective on or after September 18, 2001:

(i) Medical personnel assigned or attached to or under operational control of any ground Combat Arms units (not to include members assigned or attached to Aviation units) of brigade or smaller size, who satisfactorily perform medical duties while the unit is engaged in active ground combat, provided they are personally present and under fire. Retroactive awards under these criteria are not authorized for service prior to September 18, 2001.

(ii) Effective June 5, 2005, Soldiers possessing a MOS of 18D are no longer

eligible for award of the CMB (see § 578.69 (b)(5)(iii) of this part).

(c) The CMB is authorized for award for the following qualifying periods:

(1) World War II (December 7, 1941 to September 3, 1945).

(2) The Korean War (June 27, 1950 to July 27, 1953).

(3) Republic of Vietnam Conflict (March 2, 1961 to March 28, 1973), combined with qualifying service in Laos (April 19, 1961 to October 6, 1962).

(4) Dominican Republic (April 28, 1965 to September 1, 1966).

(5) Korea on the DMZ (January 4, 1969 to March 31, 1994).

(6) El Salvador (January 1, 1981 to February 1, 1992).

(7) Grenada (October 23 to November 21, 1983).

(8) Joint Security Area, Panmunjom, Korea (November 23, 1984).

(9) Panama (December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990).

(10) Southwest Asia Conflict (January 17 to April 11, 1991).

(11) Somalia (June 5, 1992 to March 31, 1994).

(12) Afghanistan (Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, December 5, 2001 to a date to be determined).

(13) Iraq (Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, March 19, 2003 to a date to be determined).

(d) The special provisions for the Vietnam Conflict, Laos and Korea on the DMZ are as follows:

(1) For service in Vietnam Conflict:

(i) On or after March 1, 1961, a Soldier must have been assigned to a Vietnamese unit engaged in actual ground combat or as a member of a U.S. Army infantry unit of brigade or smaller size, including Special Forces Detachments, serving with a Republic of Vietnam unit engaged in actual ground combat. The Republic of Vietnam unit must have been of regimental size or smaller and either an infantry, ranger, infantry-type unit of the civil guard, infantry-type unit of the self-defense corps, or the irregular forces. The Soldier must have been personally present and under hostile fire while assigned as specified.

(ii) On or after May 24, 1965, Soldiers serving in U.S. units must meet the requirements of paragraph (b)(1) of this section. Soldiers who perform liaison